

**PERMANENT WAGE BOARD FOR
CENTRAL GOVERNMENT
EMPLOYEES**

1375. SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to set up a permanent wage board for the Central Government employees; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE) : (a) and (b) The Fourth Central Pay Commission suggested for setting up of a Permanent Wage Review Body which should be responsible for maintaining and updating the basic data on pay and allowances of Government employees and to review the pay scales and rates of allowances and other related matters. Orders were issued on 16-5-1988 setting up a small compact unit in the Ministry of Finance for maintaining and updating the basic data of pay and allowances of Government employees and other related matters. This was not however acceptable to the Staff Side who have reiterated their demand for the setting up of Permanent Wage Review Body. This issue has been discussed in several meetings with the Staff Side and a final acceptable conclusion is yet to emerge.

EXPORT OF TEA

1376. SHRI RAMESH CHENNIHALA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of tea exported during 1990-91; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to increase the tea production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) The estimated quantum of tea exported during 1990-91 was 199.48 Million Kgs. valued at Rs. 1045.41 Crores.

(b) For increasing tea production and processing capacities, Tea Board has been

providing financial assistance to the tea industry through its various developmental schemes for (a) Optimisation of inputs and improved cultural practices (b) Irrigation, Drainage, Rejuvenation, Pruning and Infilling and (c) New Plantation in traditional and non-traditional areas, Replanting etc.

**ITEMS RESERVED FOR HANDLOOM
SECTOR**

1377. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of items reserved exclusively for handloom sector at present;

(b) whether the Government propose to increase the number of items reserved exclusively for handloom sector; and

(c) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) : (a) A total of 22 items were reserved for exclusive production on handlooms vide notification dated 4th August 1986. List of items is given below in the statement.

(b) and (c) The Handlooms (Reservation of Articles for Production) Act, 1985 and the orders issued thereunder are inoperative because of the Stay Order of the Supreme Court and till such time the stay is vacated, there can be no modifications.

STATEMENT

1. Saree.
2. Kotah Doria Saree.
3. Tie & Dye saree and material.
4. Dhoti.
5. Gamcha & Angavastram.
6. Lungi.
7. Shirting.
8. Grepe Fabrics.
9. Towels.
10. Khes, Bedsheet, Bed cover, Counter pane and furnishing.
11. Table cloth, Table mat & Napkins.
12. Duster Basta.
13. Chaddar.

14. Mashru cloth.
15. Low rid pick cloth.
16. Jamakkalam durry or durret.
17. Bukram cloth.
18. Silk.
19. Kambal or Kambalies
20. Barrack blankets.
21. Shawl, Lol, Mufflers, Pankhi etc.
22. Woollen tweed.

EXPORT POLICY OF COTTON YARN

1378. SHRI KADAMBUR M. R. JANARTHANAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to encourage export of cotton yarn vis-a-vis raw cotton; and

(b) if so, the policy of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) and (b) Government's long term approach is to lay greater stress on export of value added items. However, policy with regard to export of raw cotton and cotton yarn is governed by a number of considerations like stabilisation of cotton prices, ensuring remunerative prices for cotton farmers, ensuring availability of yarn at reasonable prices for decentralised handloom and powerloom sectors etc.

COLLECTION OF TOLL CESS ON NATIONAL HIGHWAY NO. 5

1379. PROF. VENKATESWARLU UMMAREDDY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated cost of the bridge constructed on National Highway No. 5 on Krishna river at Vijayawada;

(b) whether the Union Government propose to recover part of this amount as toll cess;

(c) whether tenders were called for collection of toll cess; and

(d) if so, to whom the work was entrusted and on what basis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (d) Bridge across River Krishna including approaches was completed at a cost of Rs. 26.47 crores. The entire cost is to be recovered through toll fee. After the bridge was opened to public in 1988, the State PWD has been collecting the toll fee departmentally in certain periods and at other times through lessees. Presently the collection is being done through one Shri V. Madhusudhan Rao who was the highest bidder in public auction conducted for the current financial year.

[Translation]

VACANT POSTS OF JUDGES IN RAJASTHAN HIGH COURT

1380. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some posts of judges are still lying vacant in Rajasthan High Court;

(b) whether the Government of Rajasthan has sent any recommendations to the Union Government to fill up these posts; and

(c) if so, the time by which the Union Government propose to fill up these posts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Chief Justice and the State authorities of Rajasthan have sent recommendations for filling up the available posts of Judges in the Rajasthan High Court. The further process of consultation to fill up these vacancies is on. It is not possible to indicate precisely by when these posts are likely to be filled up.